

Warm spell boosts aphid flight activity

The diversity of aphids flying increased substantially during a warm spell in Bulletin week 9: 17-23/6. Aphid numbers although low compared to the same time in previous years are now increasing and may still pose a threat to late crops.

The tables below show species of importance to field vegetables and sugar beet which have appeared for the first time at specific sites, together with forecast dates where available, their time of first arrival last year, and the average time of their first arrival over the last ten years. A second table shows current and accumulated numbers with comparisons to previous years. A / indicates that identifications have not been completed and a * where totals are corrected to seven days.

Cabbage aphid – *Brevicoryne brassicae*

Cabbage Aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS			
	2013	forecast	2012	03-12
Dundee	0	30/7	/	6/7
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0	28/7	28/6	24/6
Newcastle	0	8/8	/	26/6
Preston	0	25/7	29/5	30/5
Kirton	0	14/7	30/5	1/6
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	0	22/6	23/5	28/5
Wellesbourne	0	/	24/5	12/5
Hereford	0	26/6	21/5	26/5
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	0	26/6	23/5	27/5
Writtle	19/6	12/6	22/5	22/5
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0	21/6	9/5	20/5
Wye	0	15/6	22/5	30/5
Starcross (nr Exeter)	3/6	18/5	19/5	1/5

The first cabbage aphid has been caught at Writtle this week, seven days later than forecast. This is only the second cabbage aphid caught so far this year in the suction traps.

Willow-carrot aphid – *Cavariella aegopodii*

Current totals			Willow-carrot aphid	Compared to last week	Accumulated up to 23/06		
2013	2012	03-12			2013	2012	03-12
5	4	3	Dundee	↑	9	34	46
1	45	14	Gogarbank (Edinburgh)		2	121	77
0	67	28	Newcastle	↓	2	209	95
*63	30	29	Preston	↓	263	376	451
43	32	56	Kirton	↑	74	188	593
199	29	41	Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	↑	448	1074	784
*298	/	/	Wellesbourne	↑	383	/	/
*145	1	10	Hereford	↑	248	650	344
80	26	24	Rothamsted (Harpenden)	↑	151	750	411
48	21	38	Writtle	↑	168	2302	908
*39	/	5	Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	↑	117	/	213
*21	/	28	Wye	↑	49	/	332
*156	1	5	Starcross (nr Exeter)	↑	372	116	112

The willow-carrot aphid was caught at fourteen sites with numbers increasing at ten sites and highest at Broom's Barn (199), Wellesbourne (298), Hereford (145) and Starcross (156). Accumulated numbers at Starcross are above the ten year mean for the time of year.

Currant-lettuce aphid – *Nasonovia ribisnigri*

Currant-lettuce aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS		
	2013	2012	03-12
Dundee	0	27/6	8/6
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0	27/5	10/7
Newcastle	0	/	9/6
Preston	0	11/7	1/6
Kirton	0	30/5	20/6
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	0	26/9	1/7
Wellesbourne	3/6	/	8/5
Hereford	30/5	17/7	31/5
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	11/6	26/5	6/6
Writtle	0	23/5	29/5
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0	/	31/5
Wye	0	/	6/6
Starcross (nr Exeter)	2/6	/	10/6

Single currant-lettuce aphids have been caught at Wellesbourne and Starcross this week.

Potato aphid – *Macrosiphum euphorbiae*

Potato aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS			
	2013	forecast	2012	03-12
Dundee	18/6	2/6	23/5	25/5
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	5/6	25/5	22/5	13/5
Newcastle	12/6	9/6	21/5	29/5
Preston	5/6	29/5	24/5	15/5
Kirton	21/6	23/5	19/6	13/5
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	16/6	5/6	10/6	15/5
Wellesbourne	31/5	/	13/5	7/5
Hereford	19/6	30/5	17/5	9/5
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	16/5	25/5	29/5	12/5
Writtle	27/5	13/5	26/3	29/4
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	5/6	21/5	23/5	2/5
Wye	0	12/5	23/5	10/5
Starcross (nr Exeter)	25/5	2/5	12/5	29/4

The first potato aphids have been caught at Dundee, Kirton and Hereford, two to four weeks later than the forecast. Potato aphids were caught at twelve sites this week in low numbers.

Peach-potato aphid – *Myzus persicae*

Peach-potato aphid	FIRST ARRIVALS			
	2013	forecast	2012	03-12
Dundee	0	16/6	27/6	2/6
Gogarbank (Edinburgh)	0	17/6	25/6	15/6
Newcastle	0	25/6	25/5	7/6
Preston	18/6	24/5	28/5	25/5
Kirton	16/6	31/5	8/5	14/5
Broom's Barn (nr Bury St Edmunds)	16/6	5/6	18/5	9/5
Wellesbourne	0	/	9/5	15/4
Hereford	0	19/6	6/5	18/5
Rothamsted (Harpenden)	20/6	2/6	8/5	15/5
Writtle	14/6	15/5	12/3	27/4
Silwood Park (nr Ascot)	0	24/5	30/4	4/5
Wye	14/6	10/5	9/1	22/4
Starcross (nr Exeter)	2/6	14/5	2/1	15/4

The first peach-potato aphids has been caught at two sites this week, about three weeks later than forecast at Preston and eighteen days late at Rothamsted. Peach-potato aphids were caught at seven sites this week with numbers highest at Broom's Barn (18).

Summary:

- Willow–carrot aphids numbers continued to increase at ten sites, and are high for this stage in the year. Accumulated numbers for 2013 at Starcross are above the ten year mean.
- Peach–potato aphid and potato aphid suction trap numbers are low for the time of year, but are now increasing.
- Yellow water trays placed by Broom’s Barn at twenty eight sites in sugar beet areas caught 657 peach–potato aphids and three potato aphid during the period 19/6–25/6. As last week most (650) of the peach–potato aphids were caught at one site near Cambridge.
- Single currant–lettuce aphids were caught at Wellesbourne and Starcross this week, and one cabbage aphid at Writtle.
- Pea aphids and black bean aphids were caught in low numbers in central and southern England.
- Field reports of pea aphids and black bean aphids present in crops suggest they may impact on late crops should favourable conditions persist.

This news sheet is accompanied by aphid data bulletin no.9: 17/6 - 23/6/2013 , which you can view at <http://www.rothamsted.ac.uk/insect-survey/> .

Please feed back any information on aphid in crops.

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